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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim ~~14~~, wherein the AC power source provides an AC voltage in a range of about from 10 volts to 500 volts.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 3,~~ A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:
 - a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation;
 - a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode space between the first electrode and the second electrode,
 - the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode;
 - an electrical insulator located in the interelectrode space, wherein the insulator comprises a nonconductive rubber windshield wiper blade; andan AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.
- 5-6. (Cancelled)
7. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim ~~10~~, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value in a range of about from 50 μm to 500 μm .
8. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim ~~10~~, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value less than 50 μm .
9. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim ~~10~~, wherein the interelectrode

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distance has a value greater than 500 μm .

10. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 1,~~ A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:

a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation,

wherein the first electrode comprises a layer of conductive glass;

a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode; and

an AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 1,~~ A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:

a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation;

a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode.

wherein the second electrode comprises a layer of conductive glass; and

an AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 1,~~ A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:

a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation,

wherein the first electrode comprises a transparent conductive metal oxide;

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a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode; and

an AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 13~~, A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:

a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation,

wherein the first electrode comprises a conductive grid and the conductive grid includes metal strips;

a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode; and

an AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.

15. (Currently Amended) A system as in claim 14, wherein the second electrode comprises a conductive grid.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) ~~A system as in claim 1~~, A system for melting interfacial ice, comprising:

a first electrode embedded into or coated onto an object to be protected from ice formation;

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a second electrode, the first electrode and the second electrode defining an interelectrode distance that separates the first electrode and the second electrode,

wherein the second electrode comprises a conductive rubber windshield wiper blade; and

an AC power source for providing an AC voltage across the first and second electrodes having a frequency greater than 1000 Hz and less than 300 KHz wherein the interfacial ice is melted upon application of the AC voltage.

18-21. (Cancelled)

22. (New) A system as in claim 10, wherein the AC power source provides an AC voltage in a range of about from 10 volts to 500 volts.

23. (New) A system as in claim 11, wherein the AC power source provides an AC voltage in a range of about from 10 volts to 500 volts.

24. (New) A system as in claim 11, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value in a range of about from 50 μm to 500 μm .

25. (New) A system as in claim 11, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value less than 50 μm .

26. (New) A system as in claim 11, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value greater than 500 μm .

27. (New) A system as in claim 12, wherein the AC power source provides an AC voltage in a range of about from 10 volts to 500 volts.

28. (New) A system as in claim 12, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value in a range of about from 50 μm to 500 μm .

29. (New) A system as in claim 12, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value less than 50 μm .

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30. (New) A system as in claim 12, wherein the interelectrode distance has a value greater than 500 μm .

31. (New) A system as in claim 17, wherein the AC power source provides an AC voltage in a range of about from 10 volts to 500 volts.